

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION 89
By Fowlkes

A RESOLUTION to congratulate Lavern "Sonny" Moore, Hamilton County Juvenile Court, upon winning the Outstanding Juvenile Court Worker Award.

WHEREAS, each year at the annual conference held jointly by the Tennessee Council of Juvenile and Family Court Judges (TCJFCJ) and the Tennessee Juvenile Court Services Association (TJCSA), five awards are given by the TJCSA for exemplary and noteworthy service in the administration of juvenile justice in our state; and

WHEREAS, the five awards include the President's Award, the Outstanding Juvenile Court Worker Award, the Outstanding Juvenile Court Supervisor/Manager Award, the Meritorious Service Award, and the Humanitarian Service Award; these awards represent the highest level of professional recognition in the juvenile justice arena; and

WHEREAS, the TJCSA began in 1972 as an *ad hoc* committee of juvenile court workers from Davidson, Hamilton, Knox and Shelby Counties and from the City of Kingsport who organized a professional association of juvenile court workers that would serve the interests and needs of children in Tennessee; and

WHEREAS, the conference membership is composed of approximately 800 judges and staff, and is nationally recognized by the National Council of Juvenile and Family Court Judges as a leader in its field; the organization is funded mainly through registration and membership fees and some financial support from private providers; and

WHEREAS, TJCSA has approved a basic curriculum for training court staff across the state, and the association continues to grow in no small part because of continuing strong support from the state's family and juvenile court judges. The TJCSA and the TCJFCJ have met jointly in conference since 1984; and

WHEREAS, the Outstanding Juvenile Court Officer Award is presented to a worker from a juvenile court in the state of Tennessee who has made a positive difference in the field of juvenile justice; the year 2000 winner of this award is Lavern "Sonny" Moore of the Hamilton County Juvenile Court; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Moore has been a process server with the Hamilton County Juvenile Court for 17 years; he uses his experience as a father of three daughters to identify with the concerns of the court's clientele and is able to offer informed advice to juveniles and their families in the course of his duties; and

WHEREAS, Sonny Moore is also active in community, business and political affairs in the Chattanooga area, and is keenly aware that a population of juveniles who are attuned to correct behavior will ultimately benefit all other areas of societal endeavor; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Moore attributes the influence of Judge Suzanne Bailey's motto of "making a difference one child at a time" in shaping his own approach to juvenile justice and in helping form his caring attitude to the families of his community; and

WHEREAS, Lavern Moore has given of himself tirelessly to TJCSA and has worked behind the scenes to assist the officers in fulfilling their objectives; he has worked long hours to make sure that children and families receive the best that our legal system has to offer; and

WHEREAS, it is fitting that such a dedicated and faithful individual should receive praise and recognition from his peers, as well as from this legislative body; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE HUNDRED SECOND GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE SENATE CONCURRING, That we pause in our deliberations to congratulate Lavern "Sonny" Moore of the Hamilton County Juvenile Court upon receiving the Tennessee Juvenile Court Service Association's prestigious Year 2000 Outstanding Juvenile Court Worker Award and wish him every success in all his future endeavors.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.